

U.S.S.N. 09/548,892

Env 1 *SWB* *F*
altering a first property of the environment such that at least a portion of the liquid evaporates into the atmosphere; and
altering a second property of the environment such that the vapor condenses on the surface of the article.

Sub E3 *D3*
25. (Amended) A method of making an electret, which method comprises:
placing a dielectric article in a liquid of a controlled environment;
condensing vapor from the atmosphere of the controlled environment onto the dielectric article to form a condensate thereon;
decreasing the pressure on the atmosphere of said controlled environment such that at least a portion of the liquid evaporates into the atmosphere; and then drying the article.

Sub E4 *D4*
31. (Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein the first property comprises volume and the second property comprises volume.

Sub E5 *D5*
33. (Amended) A method of making an electret comprising:
altering at least one property of a controlled environment so as to cause the vapor of the atmosphere of the controlled environment to condense on a dielectric article having a resistivity of greater than 10^{14} ohms-cm, said dielectric article being disposed in said controlled environment; and
drying the article to remove the condensate,
wherein the electret exhibits a persistent electric charge.

✓
Please add the following claims.

Sub E6 *D6*
34. (New) A method of making an electret, which method comprises:
altering the volume of a controlled environment that comprises atmosphere and liquid such that at least a portion of the liquid evaporates into the atmosphere to form vapor;

U.S.S.N. 09/548,892

altering the volume of the environment such that the vapor condenses on the surface of a dielectric article; and then drying the article.

- 35.(New) A method of making an electret comprising:
altering at least one property of a controlled environment so as to cause the vapor of the atmosphere of the controlled environment to condense on a dielectric article having a resistivity of greater than 10^{14} ohms-cm, said property being selected from the group consisting of volume, pressure or temperature of the controlled environment; and drying the article.

Remarks

As a preliminary matter, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for granting their attorney, Allison Johnson, the courtesy of an interview to be held on December 18, 2002. Applicants reserve the right to supplement this response based upon the interview. Applicants also thank the Examiner for kindly indicating that claims 26-30 are allowable and that claims 5, 6, 8, and 18-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1, 18, 25, 31 and 33 have been amended. New claims 34 and 35 have been added. Claim 2 has been cancelled. A clean version of the amended and new claims is attached at Tab 1. A marked-up version of the amended and new claims is attached at Tab 2. Claims 18, 25 and 31 have been amended to correct clerical and typographical errors and not for reasons related to patentability. Support for the amendments to claims 1, 33 and new claims 34 and 35 can be found in general throughout Applicants' Specification and in particular for example as follows: claims 1 and 33, original claim 2 and page 3, lines 14-15; claim 34, original claim 31; claim 35, original claims 29 and 33 and page 3, lines 18-19.

New claim 34 is claim 31 rewritten in independent form. There being no outstanding rejections pertaining to claim 34, Applicants respectfully request an indication that claim 34 is allowable.